

## CLAIMS

### WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An electronic camera comprising:

an imaging section for generating a plurality of image data by shooting an object

5 sequentially;

a frequency dividing section for frequency-dividing each of the plurality of image data generated by said imaging section to convert the image data into transform coefficients;

a coding section for dividing the transform coefficients into transform coefficients in a selection region and transform coefficients in a non-selection region, and for generating a compressed file by allocating an information amount preferentially to the selection region to the non-selection region and coding the transform coefficients in the selection region, the selection region being a region determined in advance in an image, the non-selection region being a region other than the selection region;

an image evaluation section for comparing data amounts (ROI data amounts) of the coded transform coefficients in the selection region for the plurality of image data, and for selecting image data having a large ROI data amount; and

a recording section for recording the compressed file of the image data selected by said image evaluation section.

2. The electronic camera according to claim 1, wherein

upon deciding not to select image data being under evaluation, said image evaluation section allows said coding section to stop generating a compressed file of the image data being under evaluation.

3. An electronic camera comprising:

an imaging section for generating a plurality of image data by shooting an object

25 sequentially;

a frequency dividing section for frequency-dividing each of the plurality of image data generated by said imaging section to convert the image data into transform coefficients;

a coding section for coding the transform coefficients into coded data, and for generating a bit stream of a compressed file by arranging the coded data in a predetermined order of priority;

an image evaluation section for comparing amounts of data (interim data amounts) included in predetermined starting positions to predetermined positions of the generated bit streams for the plurality of image data, and for selecting image data having a large interim data amount; and

a recording section for recording the compressed file of the image data selected by said image evaluation section.

4. The electronic camera according to claim 3, wherein

upon deciding not to select image data being under evaluation, said image evaluation section allows said coding section to stop generating a compressed file of the image data being under evaluation.

5. An electronic camera comprising:

an imaging section for generating a plurality of image data by shooting an object sequentially;

a frequency dividing section for frequency-dividing each of the plurality of image data generated by said imaging section to convert the image data into transform coefficients;

a coding section for coding the transform coefficients into coded data, and for generating a bit stream of a compressed file by arranging the coded data in a predetermined order of priority and cutting off the bit stream according to a target data amount;

an image evaluation section for comparing cutoff positions of the generated bit streams for the plurality of image data, and for selecting image data whose bit stream has

been cut off at a position close to the beginning of the bit stream; and

a recording section for recording the compressed file of the image data selected by said image evaluation section.

6. The electronic camera according to claim 5, wherein

upon deciding not to select image data being under evaluation, said image evaluation section allows said coding section to stop generating a compressed file of the image data being under evaluation.

7. An electronic camera comprising:

an imaging section for generating a plurality of image data by shooting an object sequentially;

a frequency dividing section for dividing each of the plurality of image data generated by said imaging section into sub-bands to convert the image data into transform coefficients;

a coding section for generating a compressed file by coding the transform coefficients;

an image evaluation section for comparing signal levels in high-frequency-range sub-bands of the transform coefficients for the plurality of image data, and for selecting image data having a high signal level; and

a recording section for recording the compressed file of the image data selected by said image evaluation section.

8. The electronic camera according to claim 7, wherein

upon deciding not to select image data being under evaluation, said image evaluation section allows said coding section to stop generating a compressed file of the image data being under evaluation.

9. An electronic camera comprising:

an imaging section for generating a plurality of image data by shooting an object sequentially;

a frequency dividing section for dividing each of the plurality of image data generated by said imaging section into a plurality of tiles in an image space, and for  
5 frequency-dividing the tiles to be converted into transform coefficients;

a coding section for generating coded data by coding the transform coefficients and for generating a compressed file by gathering the coded data of the tiles;

an image evaluation section for comparing coded data amounts (tile data amounts) of predetermined tiles for the plurality of image data, and for selecting image data having a  
10 large tile data amount; and

a recording section for recording the compressed file of the image data selected by said image evaluation section.

10. The electronic camera according to claim 9, wherein

upon deciding not to select image data being under evaluation, said image  
15 evaluation section allows said coding section to stop generating a compressed file of the image data being under evaluation.

11. An image processing program for processing with a computer a plurality of image data generated by sequential shooting by an imaging section, said image processing program allowing the computer to function as:

20 an imaging section for generating a plurality of image data by shooting an object sequentially;

a frequency dividing section for frequency-dividing each of the plurality of image data generated by said imaging section to convert the image data into transform coefficients;

a coding section for dividing the transform coefficients into transform coefficients in  
25 a selection region and transform coefficients in a non-selection region, and for generating a

compressed file by allocating an information amount preferentially to the selection region to the non-selection region and coding the transform coefficients in the selection region, the selection region being a region determined in advance in an image, the non-selection region being a region other than the selection region;

5 an image evaluation section for comparing data amounts (ROI data amounts) of the coded transform coefficients in the selection region for the plurality of image data, and for selecting image data having a large ROI data amount; and

a recording section for recording the compressed file of the image data selected by said image evaluation section.

10 12. The image processing program according to claim 11, wherein

upon deciding not to select image data being under evaluation, said image evaluation section allows said coding section to stop generating a compressed file of the image data being under evaluation.

13 An image processing program for processing with a computer a plurality of image data generated by sequential shooting by an imaging section, said image processing program allowing the computer to function as:

an imaging section for generating a plurality of image data by shooting an object sequentially;

a frequency dividing section for frequency-dividing each of the plurality of image data generated by said imaging section to convert the image data into transform coefficients;

20 a coding section for coding the transform coefficients into coded data, and for generating a bit stream of a compressed file by arranging the coded data in a predetermined order of priority;

an image evaluation section for comparing amounts of data (interim data amounts) included in predetermined starting positions to predetermined positions of the generated bit

streams for the plurality of image data, and for selecting image data having a large interim data amount; and

a recording section for recording the compressed file of the image data selected by said image evaluation section.

14. The image processing program according to claim 13, wherein

upon deciding not to select image data being under evaluation, said image evaluation section allows said coding section to stop generating a compressed file of the image data being under evaluation.

15. An image processing program for processing with a computer a plurality of image data generated by sequential shooting by an imaging section, said image processing program allowing the computer to function as:

an imaging section for generating a plurality of image data by shooting an object sequentially;

a frequency dividing section for frequency-dividing each of the plurality of image data generated by said imaging section to convert the image data into transform coefficients;

a coding section for coding the transform coefficients into coded data, and for generating a bit stream of a compressed file by arranging the coded data in a predetermined order of priority and cutting off the bit stream according to a target data amount;

an image evaluation section for comparing cutoff positions of the generated bit streams for the plurality of image data, and for selecting image data whose bit stream has been cut off at a position close to the beginning of the bit stream; and

a recording section for recording the compressed file of the image data selected by said image evaluation section.

16. The image processing program according to claim 15, wherein

upon deciding not to select image data being under evaluation, said image

evaluation section allows said coding section to stop generating a compressed file of the image data being under evaluation.

17. An image processing program for processing with a computer a plurality of image data generated by sequential shooting by an imaging section, said image processing program

5 allowing the computer to function as:

an imaging section for generating a plurality of image data by shooting an object sequentially;

a frequency dividing section for dividing each of the plurality of image data generated by said imaging section into sub-bands to convert the image data into transform coefficients;

a coding section for generating a compressed file by coding the transform coefficients;

an image evaluation section for comparing signal levels in high-frequency-range sub-bands of the transform coefficients for the plurality of image data, and for selecting

15 image data having a high signal level; and

a recording section for recording the compressed file of the image data selected by said image evaluation section.

18. The image processing program according to claim 17, wherein

upon deciding not to select image data being under evaluation, said image evaluation section allows said coding section to stop generating a compressed file of the image data being under evaluation.

19. An image processing program for processing with a computer a plurality of image data generated by sequential shooting by an imaging section, said image processing program allowing the computer to function as:

25 an imaging section for generating a plurality of image data by shooting an object

sequentially;

a frequency dividing section for dividing each of the plurality of image data generated by said imaging section into a plurality of tiles in an image space, and for frequency-dividing the tiles to be converted into transform coefficients;

5 a coding section for generating coded data by coding the transform coefficients and for generating a compressed file by gathering the coded data of the tiles;

an image evaluation section for comparing coded data amounts (tile data amounts) of predetermined tiles for the plurality of image data, and for selecting image data having a large tile data amount; and

10 a recording section for recording the compressed file of the image data selected by said image evaluation section.

20. The image processing program according to claim 19, wherein

upon deciding not to select image data being under evaluation, said image evaluation section allows said coding section to stop generating a compressed file of the  
15 image data being under evaluation.